

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of listing of claims, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid ionic compound comprising a cation which is a complex of a neutral ligand selected from the group consisting of ~~organic-substituted and unsubstituted~~ alkyl amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Na^+ , K^+ , Li^+ , Ca^{2+} , Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Co^{3+} and Fe^{3+} and an anion which is a conjugate anion of the metal ion, wherein said anion comprises sulfur or phosphorus ~~said cation and said anion comprising a substantially new liquid.~~
2. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is a liquid below 100°C .
3. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 2 which is a liquid at room temperature.
4. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 which is electrically conductive in the absence of a solvent.
5. (Previously Presented) An ionic liquid according to claim 1 which is hydrophobic.
6. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said neutral organic ligand is a crown ether.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) An ionic compound according to claim 1 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonimide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.
9. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a ~~substantially neutral ionic liquid~~ ionic compound, the method comprising mixing a neutral ligand selected from the group consisting of organic ~~substituted and unsubstituted~~ alkyl amines and crown ethers with a metal ion selected from the group consisting of Na^+ , K^+ , Li^+ , Ca^{2+} , Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Hg^{2+} , Co^{3+} and Fe^{3+} and with the salt of a metal cation and its conjugate anion at room temperature.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein said neutral organic ligand is a crown ether.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the metal cation is selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, lithium and calcium.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said metal cation is selected from the group consisting of silver, zinc, copper, cadmium, nickel, mercury and iron.
14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9 wherein said conjugate anion is bis(trifluoromethane)sulfonimide, boron trifluoride, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate, hexafluorophosphate and dicyanamide.
- 15.-20. (Cancelled)